

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ

www.sjparish.net



The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

August 30, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

It is our custom to be silent before the service, so as you take some time to pray, please turn off all electronic devices. All you need to participate in the service is found in this bulletin and in the blue hymnals in each pew.

If you are new to St. John's, or have been attending a while but the parish office doesn't yet have your information, please fill out our online newcomer form by scanning the QR code or going to sjparish.net/newcomer



Scan to fill out online newcomer form.

Our ushers are here to create a welcoming and safe space for worship; please let them know if you have questions, need assistance, or become aware of a health or safety concern. They have hearing assist devices available for those who need them. We're glad you're here!

Children are always welcome to be in church with their families. We encourage you to sit up front, as children will be more engaged if they can see and hear what's going on. Children are welcome here just as they are; please don't feel you must leave every time your little one makes a sound! We have children's bulletins, books, and other quiet activities available in the narthex (the entrance with the red doors) for children's use during the service. We do not provide staffed nursery care over the summer. The nursery will reopen on Sunday, September 13, when the new program year begins.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE VOLUNTARY Brother James's Air

Searle Wright (1918-2004)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 427 When morning gilds the skies
All stand and sing.

LAUDES DOMINI

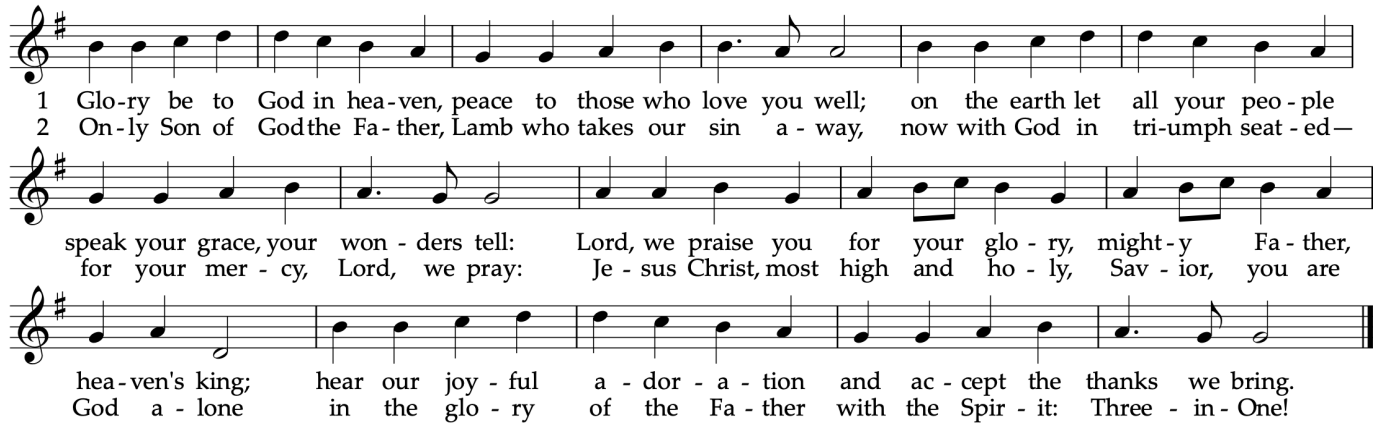
THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SONG OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in hea-ven, peace to those who love you well; on the earth let all your peo-ple
 2 On-ly Son of God the Fa-ther, Lamb who takes our sin a-way, now with God in tri-umph seat-ed—
 speak your grace, your won-ders tell: Lord, we praise you for your glo-ry, might-y Fa-ther,
 for your mer-cy, Lord, we pray: Je-sus Christ, most high and ho-ly, Sav-ior, you are
 hea-ven's king; hear our joy-ful a-dor-a-tion and ac-cept the thanks we bring.
 God a-lone in the glo-ry of the Fa-ther with the Spir-it: Three-in-One!

Text: Gloria in excelsis, para. Michael Parry (b. 1942)

Music: ODE TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1872)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 15:15–21

All sit.

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore, thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

*Psalm 26:1–8**The people say the words in bold.*

- 1 Give judgment for me, O Lord,
for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
- 2 **Test me, O Lord, and try me; ***
examine my heart and my mind.
- 3 For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.
- 4 **I have not sat with the worthless, ***
nor do I consort with the deceitful.
- 5 I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.
- 6 **I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, ***
that I may go in procession round your altar,
- 7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
- 8 **Lord, I love the house in which you dwell ***
and the place where your glory abides.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:9–21

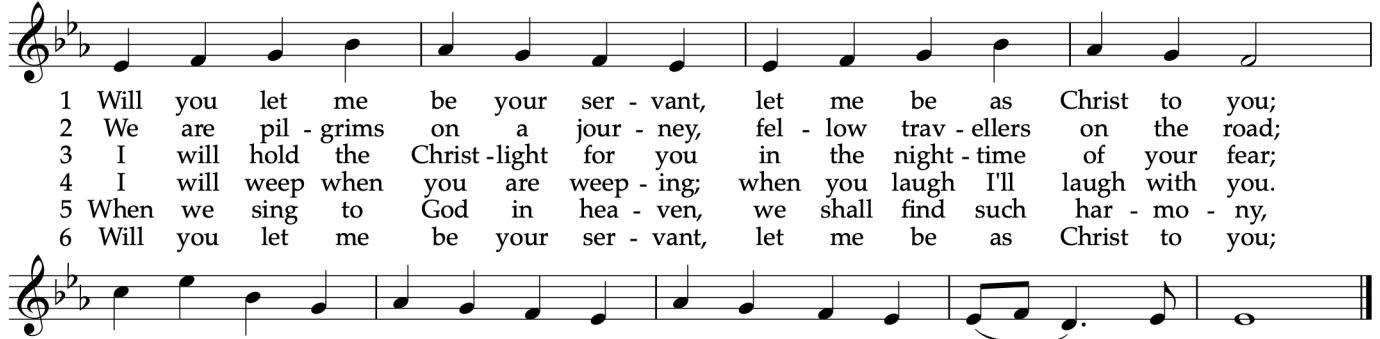
Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN Will you let me be your servant

SERVANT SONG

All stand and sing.


1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you;
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low trav - ellers on the road;
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time of your fear;
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
 5 When we sing to God in hea - ven, we shall find such har - mo - ny,
 6 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you;

pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
 we are here to help each oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
 I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
 I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and a go - ny.
 pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant too.

Text and Music: Richard Gillard (b. 1953)

THE GOSPEL

*Matthew 16:21–28**Minister* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.*All* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

Margie Baker

All sit.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE CONFESSION

*The people say the words in **bold**.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our presiding bishop, for Jeff and Laura our bishops, and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially those on our parish prayer list.

The heav'ns are not too high,
His praise may thither fly;
The earth is not too low,
His praises there may grow.

The Church with psalms must shout;
 No door can keep them out;
 But above all, the heart
 Must bear the longest part.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

All stand and sing.

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise him, all creatures here below;
 Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

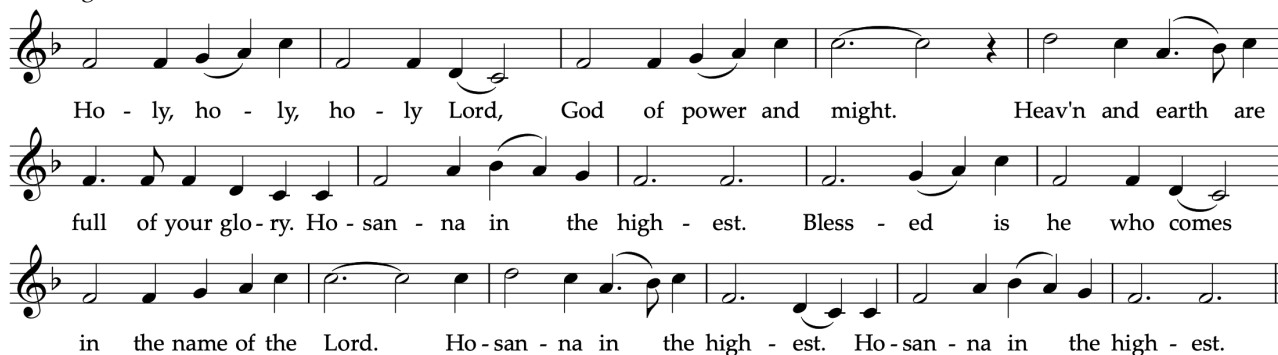
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time, you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices as we say:

THE SANCTUS

All sing.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might. Heav'n and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: Land of Rest, arr. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889–1983)

All remain standing or kneel.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to

draw the world to himself yet we were heedless for his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **Our Father, who art in heaven,**
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant Take this bread, share this wine. In these Christ comes to us with love from God. The gifts of God for the people of God.

Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion at St. John's. To receive, please kneel or stand at the altar rail. You may choose to receive bread only, intinct (dip) your wafer in the wine, or drink from the cup.

If you would like a blessing instead of receiving Communion, cross your arms over your chest.

If you have mobility limitations and would like a priest to bring Communion to you in your seat, please let an usher know.

Confidential prayers are available with a trained healing prayer minister at the back of the church near the baptismal font. If you would like to pray with someone about life's challenges or joys, go to the font after receiving Communion.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

All stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant gives the blessing and the people respond, Amen.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 675 Take up your cross

BOURBON

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

The Minister dismisses the people, and the people respond. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE VOLUNTARY Grand Chœur from the oratorio *Joshua*

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

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THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker

Lector & Chalice Bearer: Jane Harris

Intercessor & Chalice Bearer: Bill Lockery

The St. John's Summer Singers

Organist: Nick Capozzoli

Ushers: Matt Ciscel, Susan Fiegel-Rapp

Livestream Operator: Rosa Guzzo

Healing Prayer Minister: Annabel Clapp

Altar Guild: Matteo Donnelly, John Dustin

In your prayers this week, please pray for:**Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:**

Kim Green	Susan	Joyce Flynn	Wendy
Virginia Skeele	Sue	Joan Ackley	Joseph
John & Barbara Spannaus	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Jon Nelson	Sarah Carroll
Jennifer Blean	Harry Barber	Roger	Greg Highland
Hale Walkoff	Doug Larson	Daniel Zoltan	Rachel
Rod Farrell	Miranda	Jim & Kathlyn Schofield	Lucas
Hillary Lord	Linda	John Scott	Amy Bittinger
Helen Rosen	Shoemaker Family	Eric Zoltan	Mike
Nick Willke	Heidi	Elizabeth Myers	Rick
Tracie O'Brien	Andrew Worrell	Robert & Erika Roy	Richard Myers
Katie	Sam Wiley	Meghan	Carol
Anne	Gracie	Bonnie Evans	Paul Thaxton
Martha Babbitt	Jackie Harding	Dennis	Stephanie
Linda	Karen Bacon Rogers	John Murray	Alberto Guzman
Jamie Blean	Dave Woolley	Spencer Rothman	Kathy Beynor
Brendan	Drew Baker	Rosow Family	Sara Enright
Betsy Smith	Scott Wilmot	Meg	April
Young Jin Kim	J.L.M.	Tom Lauterbach	John Neil Bannon
Janice Meehan	Charles Coyne	Christina Andrews	Cyndy Bittinger
Stevens Family	Dave	Mary Jo Keating	Amity Gaige
Jo-Ann Sadosky	Shivani & Deb	Ruth Barr	Ann Hutchinson
Allison Mani	Katie	Donald Myers	Heather

Those serving in the military:

Michael Meehan; Alex Thaxton

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Wes Winterbottom	Benjamin Puzzo	Jack Adams
Jx Eikel	Jason Carl	Jakob Montas
Freya Watt	Jayden Donnelly	

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Sharon & Mike Henes

St. John's community partner organizations:

Loaves & Fishes; Journey Home; Grace Academy; Covenant Preparatory School; Trinity Academy, Habitat for Humanity; West Hartford ESOL/citizenship program; Dignity Grows; Place of Grace Food Pantry; Church by the Pond; Stronger Families, Stronger Futures

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Trinity College, Hartford; Berkeley Divinity School; New Haven; The Episcopal Church at Yale, New Haven; The Episcopal Church at UConn, Storrs; and for students, teachers, and chaplains at Episcopal seminaries and campus ministries preparing to begin the school year.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church in the Province of the West Indies.

Upcoming events

More details about these events are on the following pages and also in the weekly e-newsletter.

- **TODAY after the 10:30 service:** Acolyte lunch and training for *current and new* acolytes. We welcome any youth in 3rd grade and up to join this ministry, including those who sing with the Choir School.
- **Monday, August 31, online at 7 p.m.:** A new online Bible study series begins
- **Wednesday, September 9 at 5:30 p.m.:** Weekday spoken Holy Eucharist resumes every Wednesday evening
- **Sunday, September 13:** Return to the program year service schedule (8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.)
 - Sunday School for ages 3 to 18
 - Staffed nursery from 9 a.m. to noon
 - For adults: Celebration of Ministry with a light breakfast at 9:30 a.m.
- **Friday, September 25 at 6 p.m.:** Worship volunteer potluck party at the rector's home for ushers, layreaders, acolytes, livestream team, healing prayer ministers, altar guild

Blood drive at St. John's on September 12. We regularly provide space in Hubbard Hall for American Red Cross blood drives. There is currently a severe blood shortage in the area. Go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org> and put in the church zip code (06119) for more information and to sign up for a blood drive at St. John's or another location.

Are you looking for a new way to become more involved at St. John's and connect with others? The beginning of a new program year is a great time to check out some of our core ministries that support worship, all of which are seeking new volunteers. If you'd like to learn more about what's involved, please contact the person listed or one of the clergy. Training is provided!

- **Ushers:** Welcome people, distribute bulletins, and assist with service logistics at 10:30 Sunday services and special services. Time commitment: ~ Once a month. **Contact:** Annabel Clapp (annabeltrickett@yahoo.com) and Don Polk (louiesdad@comcast.net).
- **Layreaders/Chalice Bearers:** Read the scriptures and prayers and serve as a chalice bearer for Sunday and other services. Time commitment: ~ Once a month. **Contact:** John Kauczka (jkauczka@gmail.com).
- **Altar Guild:** Set up altar hangings and communion supplies for Sunday and other services, and help care for brass and silver items, linens, candles, etc. Time commitment: ~ Once every 4-6 weeks. **Contact:** Buffy Ineson (buffyineson@gmail.com)
- **Healing Prayers:** Pray with and for parishioners who come back to the baptismal font after communion. Time commitment: ~ Once every 6-8 weeks. **Contact:** Wes Winterbottom (wesleywinterbottom@hotmail.com).
- **Livestream Team:** Operate the livestream software during Sunday 10:30 services and special services. Time commitment: ~Once every 4-6 weeks. **Contact:** Mary Honyotski (maryhonyotski@gmail.com).
- **Acolytes:** Children/youth in 3rd grade and older. Participate in procession and assist clergy during Sunday 10:30 services and special services. Time commitment: ~ Two to three times every 2 months, September through June. **Contact:** Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)

BE AN ACOLYTE!

Children and youth in grades three and above are invited to lead worship as acolytes.

Training for new and returning acolytes will be Sunday, August 30 after the 10:30 service (around 11:30). Lunch will be provided.

Questions? Contact Margie (margie@sjparish.net)



Altar flowers for 2026 - 2027

Remember or honor someone you love by donating toward the cost of our weekly altar flowers. The name(s) of the person/people you want to remember/honor will be listed in the Sunday bulletin on a specified date.

To submit names and dates for altar flowers from September 13, 2026 through June 6, 2027, you may:

- Fill out an online form at sjparish.net/flowers OR
- Fill out a paper form (available at either entrance to the church) and return it in the offering plate or by mail.

Please read the form directions carefully. For liturgical reasons, there are some Sundays during the year when we cannot do flower memorials.

The suggested donation is \$100 for each Sunday or holiday that you'd like to remember/honor a loved one, but any amount is welcome. You may write a check payable to St. John's, or give online at sjparish.net/give-to-st-johns

Please put "Flowers" in the memo of your check or online donation. Thank you!

Weekday Evening Eucharist

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the chancel (front of the church)

Weekly services resume on September 9

BACK TO (SUNDAY) SCHOOL September 13

Sunday school for all ages resumes on September 13
in our newly renovated Education Wing!

Preschool and elementary children (through grade 4)
begin at 9:00. Dropping off later? No problem.

Middle and high schoolers (grades 5-12) begin at 9:30.

Parents, please use the QR code to register your
children for Sunday School. Registration is
free and helps us have the most up-to-date
contact information.





St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ

www.sjparish.net

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119

860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 9 a.m.: Holy Eucharist in the Cloister Garden (or Hubbard Hall)

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.: Holy Eucharist in the church (and livestreamed)

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net) *Rector*
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net) *Associate Rector*
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net) *Director of Operations & Communications*
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net) *Sexton*
Nick Capozzoli (nick@sjparish.net) *Director of Music*
Francis Pipczynski (francis@sjparish.net) *Financial Administrator*
Christa Rakich *Organ Artist-in-Residence**
Ralph Valentine *Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus**
The Rev. Rebecca Bourret *Priest Associate**
The Rev. Mary Lynn Dell *Priest Associate**
The Rev. Joseph Pace *Priest Associate**
The Rev. Nancy Wright *Priest Associate**

**These positions are non-stipendiary.*

VESTRY

Susan Fay *Warden*
Tom Oberholtzer *Warden*
Jeff Kinney and John Wilcox *Treasurers*

2024–27: Lauren Mascola, Stacey Samuel Bannon, Brenda Zanta

2025–28: Kim Byrd, Matteo Donnelly, Jeff Verney

2026–29: Betsy Chicares, Matt Ciscel, Young Hee Derby, Don Polk